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THE HEATHEN CHIEF
BY
F. BRET HARTE
Illustrated by
JOSEPH HULL

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*Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1870 by the Western News Company
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress.*



Bill Nye

Portrait according to "An Ambassador from the Far Eastern" published in the "Illustrated London News" 1894.

Ah Sin was his name;
And I shall not deny
In regard to the same
What that name might imply
But his smile it was pensive and child-like.
As I frequent remarked to Bill Nye.



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1870 by the Westcott & Sons Co. in the Office of the Librarian of Congress

Bill Nye,
It was August the third,
And quite soft was the skies
Which it might be inferred
That Ah Sin was likewise;
Yet he played it that day upon William
And me in a way I despise.

Which we had a small game.
 And Ah Sin took a hand:
 It was Euchre. The same
 He did not understand;
 But he smiled as he sat by the table.
 With the smile that was child-like and bland



Yet the cards they were stocked
 In a way that I grieve,
 And my feelings were shocked
 At the state of Nyes sleeve;
 Which was stuffed full of aces and bowers.
 And the same with intent to deceive



Engraved according to a drawing by the artist 1870 by the Western Artists Co. in the office of the engraver, Messrs.

But the hands that were played
 By that heathen Chinese,
 And the points that he made,
 Were quite frightful to see—
 Till at last he put down a right bower,
 Which the same Nye had dealt unto me.



Full

Illustration of the effect of immigration on the labor of the West, as shown in the office of the American Congress.

Then I looked up at Nye
 And he gazed upon me
 And he rose with a sigh,
 And said, "Can this be?
 We are ruined by Chinese cheap labor" —

And he went for that heathen Chinese



Illustration to Act at Congress at the time, showing the heathen Chinese in the United States.

In the scene that ensued
 I did not take a hand,
 But the floor it was strewed
 Like the leaves on the strand
 With the cards that Ah Sin had been hitting.
 In the game "he did not understand."

In his sleeves, which were long
 He had twenty-four packs—
 Which was coming it strong,
 Yet I state but the facts
 And we found on his nails, which were taper
 What is frequent in tapers—that's wax.



Skull



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1874 by the Western Pioneer in the Office of the Librarian of Congress

Which is why I remark,
 And my language is plain,
 That for ways that are dark,
 And for tricks that are vain,
 The heathen Chinese is peculiar—
 Which the same I am free to maintain.

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